

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicants:** Hiroshi Matsuzaki, et al.      **Examiner:** Unassigned  
**Serial No:** To be assigned      **Art Unit:** Unassigned  
**Filed:** Herewith      **Docket:** 17169  
**For:** RETRIEVAL CONDITION SETTING      **Dated:** October 28, 2003  
METHOD AND RETRIEVAL CONDITION  
SETTING APPARATUS

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following reference, which is also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. Japanese Patent Application KOKAI Publication No. 9-101970, published April 15, 1997, together with an English language abstract.

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Date of Deposit: October 28, 2003

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Dated: October 28, 2003



Thomas Spinelli

Applicants are submitting a copy of the above-cited reference. The relevance of the reference has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



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TS:dg

Form PTO-1449 (REV. 7-80) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		Atty. Docket No. (Optional) 17169		Application Number Unassigned					
<b>LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="2">Applicant(s) Hiroshi Matsuzaki, et al.</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date Herewith</td> <td>Group Art Unit Unassigned</td> </tr> </table>				Applicant(s) Hiroshi Matsuzaki, et al.		Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unassigned
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Filing Date Herewith	Group Art Unit Unassigned								
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>									
EXAMINER INITIAL*		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE (if appropriate)		
	AA								
	AB								
	AC								
	AD								
	AE								
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>									
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION		
							YES	NO	
		9-101970	4/15/97	Japan			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>									
EXAMINER		DATE CONSIDERED							
<small>* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.</small>									